

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention is a~~ A protective covering (10) for protecting surrounding items, i.e., walls, floors, and furniture, etc., during construction, moving, or other activities. Covering (10) includes a protective backing layer (12) having a front side (14), a back side (16), opposing top and bottom edges (17) and (18), respectively, opposing left and right side edges (19) and (20), respectively, and a plurality of protective strips (22) each having a first end (24) and a second end (26). Strips (22) are securely affixed to and covering a substantial portion of front side (14). Layer (12) may include a first adhesive portion (28) along left side (19) that includes an adhesive for connecting multiple coverings (10) to one another. Back side (16) of layer (12) may also include a second adhesive portion (31), which is similar to first adhesive portion (28), for removably adhering covering (10) to underlying surfaces.

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